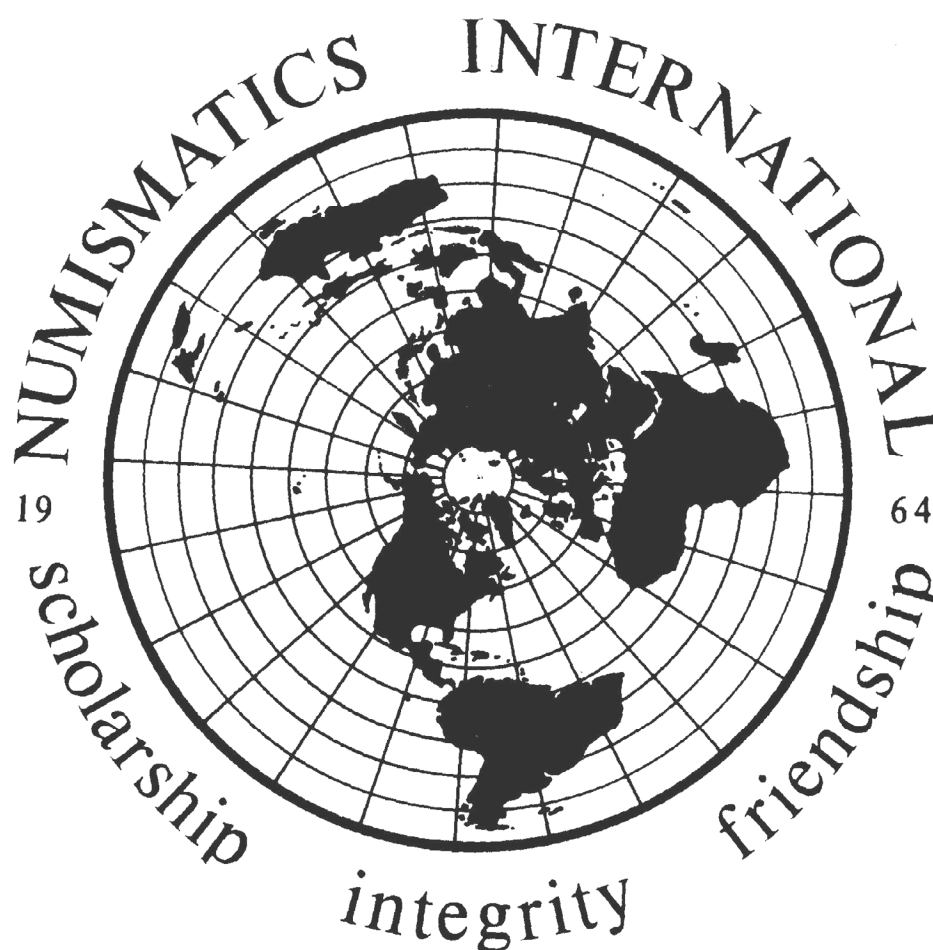


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Article Contest Results for 2007

At the end of last year I selected articles from the NI Bulletin which were published over the course of 2007. I chose seven feature length articles and five short articles, each worthy of winning an award. These were submitted to your NI Board of Governors who in turn had the difficult responsibility of selecting winners from each of the two categories. As you will see below, the board moved to acknowledge three authors in the feature article category. We congratulate all four winners.

The award for Best Original (Feature) Article went to **Horace Flatt** for his article *The Pasco Mint, Initial Period, 1825-1840 and 1836 Eight Reales* published in the March 2007 edition of the NI Bulletin. The board chose to award a second place prize to **Eduardo Dargent** for his article, which was also published in March, *Lanuvium, Cradle of Seven Families of Republican Moneyers*. The board awarded Special Recognition for Outstanding Research to **Glenn Murray** for his article *King Philip II, the Missing Assayer Mark on his Coins from the Segovia Mint*, published in the September bulletin.

The award for Best Original Short Article went to **Jorge Restrepo** for his article *Colombian 8 Reales 1770, Santa Fe (de Bogotá) Mint, Assayers VJ* published in the February 2007 edition of the NI Bulletin.

Herman Blanton



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Millennial Medal for the House of Ségur-Cabanac

Herman Blanton, NI #LM115

An interesting medal was brought to my attention a few years ago by a fellow NI member who was looking for information. At first I was not much interested in the medal, but since the piece in question was a trial strike of one side only, the opposite being blank, it offered some challenge to identification. After starting my research it wasn't long before I ran into difficulty determining its meaning and its origin.

Two pieces, one on a round 45mm bronze planchet (lot 933), another on a crude rectangular bronze piece 60×48mm (lot 934), were offered by the auction firm Monasterium of Münster, Germany, in their auction #18 in June 2005. The catalog descriptions were some help, but left a lot of questions unanswered; the auction house could not offer any further information.



Lot 933



Lot 934

*(Lot 933) Ferdinand I (sic) 1835-1848. Bronzeabschlag, einseitig von Jauner o. J. *Post*Millie*An*Arthur*Com*De*Ségur*Cabanac. Behelmtes Wappen darüber steigender Löwe. Das Wappen wird von 2 wilden Männern gehalten. Der Graf war Hofbeamter am österreichischen Hofe. Seine Familie stammt aus Salzburg, ein Familienmitglied wurde nach Frankreich verheiratet. Noch heute gibt es einen Grafen Arthur Com de Ségur Cabanac in Salzburg. 45 mm, 7 mm dick.*

The catalog described the medals as Austrian, issued with the name of Arthur Count Ségur-Cabanac, and stated that there was some family connection with France. These proved correct (Ségur is a famous name in France). The pieces show the mark of the engraver, "JAUNER." This was my starting point.

Heinrich Jauner (1833-1912) was *K.K. Hof-Kammer-Graveur* (Imperial Royal Court Chamber Engraver) in Vienna to Emperor Franz Josef I. Heinrich's father, Franz Jauner, was also an engraver and started the family business.¹ This particular medal is

¹ Leonard Forrer, *Biographical Dictionary of Medalists, Coin-, Gem-, and Seal-Engravers, Mint-Masters, &c. Ancient and Modern with References to Their Works B.C 500 – A.D. 1900*. (London: Spink & Son Ltd., 1907), 3:63-4.

not listed in Forrer so the question arose, which Jauner engraved the medal? I recognized the name Heinrich Jauner but not that of his father, which is who must have been the designer if the Monasterium attribution to Ferdinand I was correct, as Heinrich was but fifteen years old when Ferdinand abdicated in 1848. At this point I had not even dated the medal.

Dr. Hubert Emmerig at the University of Vienna was able to give me some catalog citations; however none had an illustration of the medal. At least now I had a date, 1876.

I contacted the KHM (*Kunsthistorisches Museum*) in Vienna, but it turns out they did not have an example of the medal; therefore, I could not get an image of the opposite side from them.

Through internet searching I was able to discover that in the 19th century a Count Arthur Ségur-Cabanac was lord of the Austrian town of *Sankt Peter in der Au*. Through the town offices I was put in contact with Dr. Anton Ségur-Cabanac in Vienna, who provided some information about the Count and his family. Unfortunately, Dr. Ségur-Cabanac did not have one of the medals, or a picture of it; therefore, I still did not know what the opposite side looked like.

The medal was issued in 1876 to celebrate the 1000th anniversary of the family's elevation to noble rank and its lineage from 876 up to Count Arthur who was head of the Ségur-Cabanac family in 1876. As this medal was issued in Austria, and Dr. Anton Ségur-Cabanac says it is a family medal,² I assume it was made to order for the Ségur-Cabanac family.

Eventually I learned of a family history published in 1908 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the House of Ségur-Cabanac in Austria. I had hopes that this book could at long last answer my questions, which it did, but not until I was able to locate it. There may have been many of these books printed, but I couldn't find any in Ohio, not even at the Ohio State University Libraries. In fact, through internet library searches I was able to locate only two copies in the USA, one at Princeton University and the second at the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston. Fortunately, the NEHGS offers photocopy service and I was able to get pertinent pages copied and shipped for a reasonable fee.

History

The Ségur family entered the nobility in Carolingian France during the ninth century. To place this in context an overview is in order, albeit a very short one. Pepin the Short was King of the Franks and father of the first Carolingian Emperor, Charlemagne. Charlemagne's heir was his son Louis the Pious. Louis the Pious is where the story begins.

Louis the Pious (Emperor 814-40) had three sons by his first wife Ermengarde of Hesbaye: Pepin, Lothaire and Louis the German. In 817 Louis divided the Empire

² Anton Ségur-Cabanac, personal communication September 25, 2007.

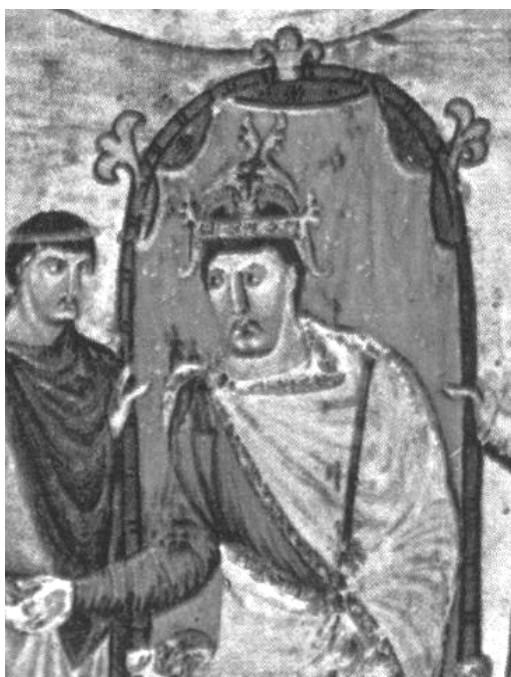
among his three sons. After his wife died, Louis remarried, to Judith, and had a fourth son, Charles, in 823. Louis annulled the division of 817 and gave a share of the Empire to his youngest son, Charles, known to history as Charles the Bald. The elder brothers did not take kindly to sharing their inheritance with Charles, which led to their rebellion against their father and to civil war.

Without going into these Carolingian wars, let us note that modern France can date its founding to this period; some use the battle of Fontenoy in 841, others use the Treaty of Verdun in 843 which partitioned Charlemagne's empire into three parts. Charles the Bald received the Western third of the Empire, which is very roughly the area of modern France today. Charles was king of Western Francia (France) 840-77 (or from 843 with respect to the Treaty of Verdun), and Emperor 875-7.



Wikipedia. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_the_Pious

Louis the Pious with his father Charlemagne



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/charles_theBald_\(both\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/charles_theBald_(both))

Charles II the Bald

Left: Detail from a painting in the *First Bible of Charles the Bald*, painted c. 845-851, kept at the *Bibliothèque Nationale de France*. Right: Seal of Charles the Bald

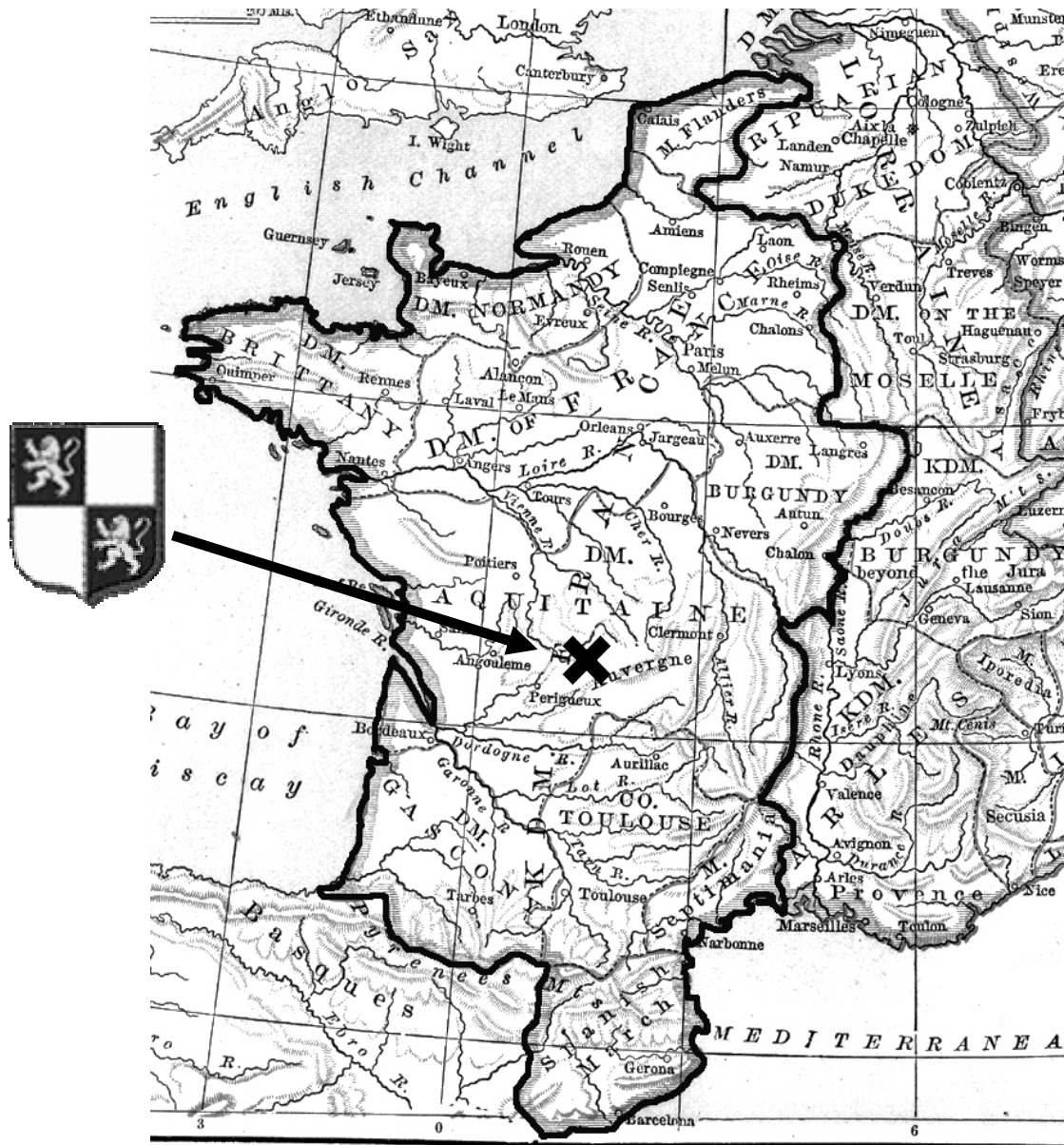
Not only did Charles have to battle with his family and their supporters, he also had to deal with the Norse, the raiders from the north. The Norse regularly invaded France wreaking havoc and demanding tribute from the inhabitants. And to make matters even more difficult Charles had to manage the nobility in France who were more interested in protecting and expanding their own territories than in supporting the king. It was in this environment that the house of Ségur entered the nobility.

The anarchy which accompanied and followed the disintegration of the Carolingian state at first gave a good many vassals the opportunity to appropriate outright the lands which they had received as temporary grants. This was especially the case when the grant was made by a church or by the king. Let us compare two charters from Limoges, separated by an interval of thirty-eight years. In the first, dated 876, Charles the Bald hands over to the vassal Aldebert, for his own lifetime and that of his sons, the estate of *Cavaliacus* to be held "as a usufruct, in benefit." In the later one, which bears the date 914, Alger (Hildegair), son of Aldebert, makes a gift to the canons of Limoges of "my allod called *Cavaliacus*, which I got from my parents."³

This interesting citation illustrates that the land granted to Aldebert was "usufruct," which means use of the land, but not ownership. However, when Hildegair gave it to the church he called it his "allod," meaning land owned absolutely, not subject to anyone else.

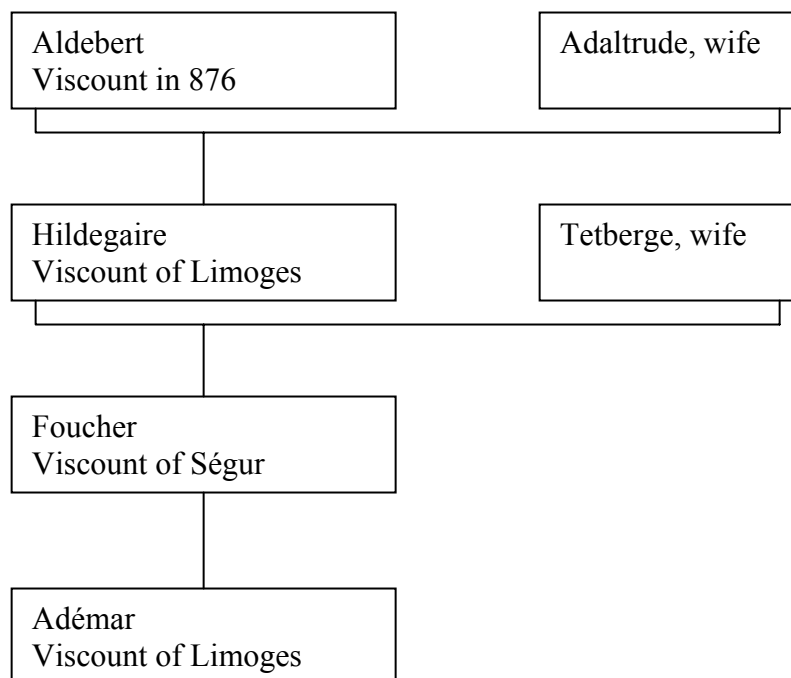
³ Marc Bloch, *Feudal Society, Volume I, The Growth of Ties of Dependence*, trans. L.A. Manyon. (New York: Routledge, 1989), p. 172.

The familial ancestral town of *Ségur-le-Chateau* is located in the modern day Correze Province, department of Limousin, on the river L'Auvezere. By automobile it is about 65 km south of the city of Limoges.



Western Francia, Division of the Empire by Treaty of Verdun, 843.
Ségur-le-Chateau location shown by ×

Through four contemporary documents, Victor Ségur-Cabanac⁴ traces the origin of his family's nobility to Aldebert on July 17, 876. Ségur-Cabanac argues that the viscounts of Limoges and the viscounts of Ségur were the same in the beginning and that it is very likely that the creation of viscounts of Limoges was an act of Odo (*Eudes*), Count of Paris, later King of West Francia.

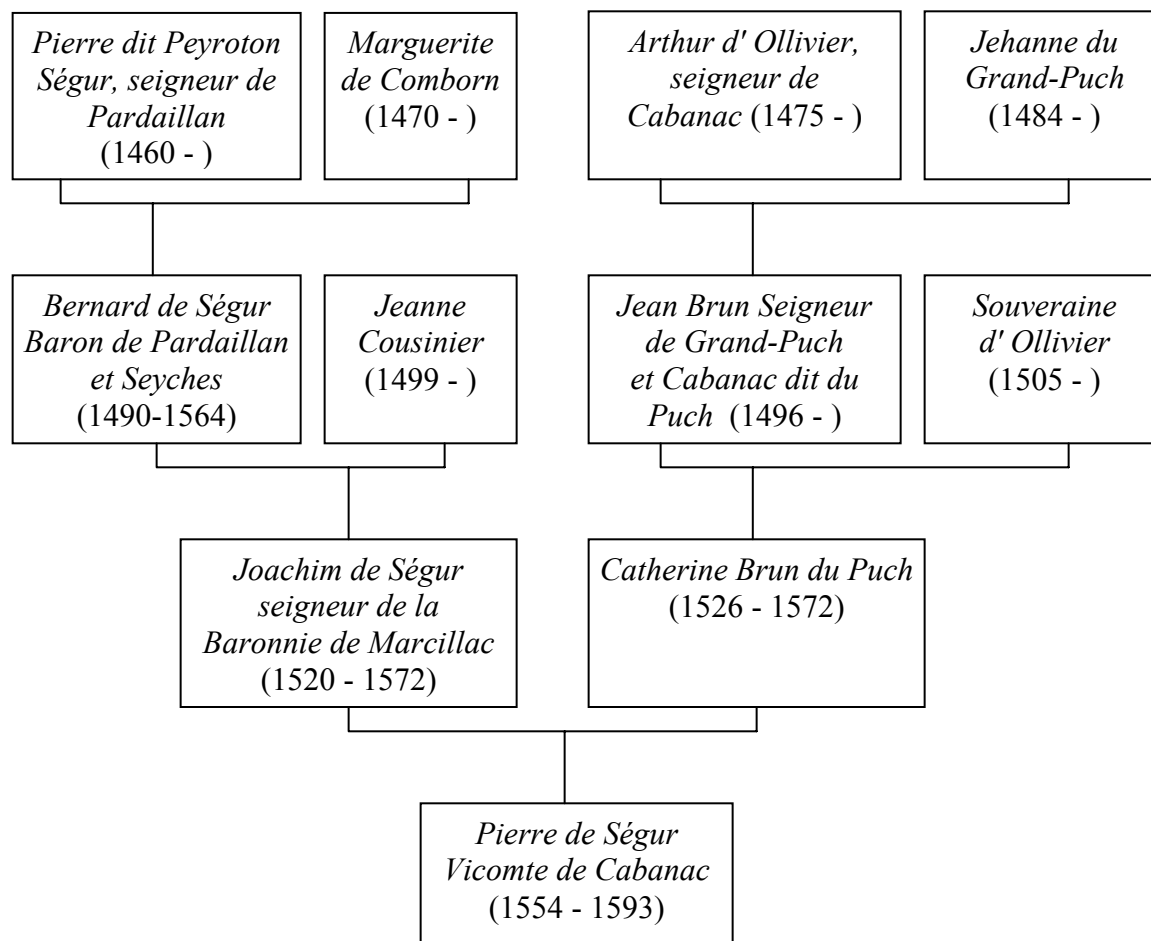


By tracing the title through four generations, Ségur-Cabanac shows that the viscounts of Ségur and Limoges were the same.

Il est vrai que Foucher est nommé Vicecomes de Ségur, tandis qu'Hildegair se nommait Vicecomes Lemovicensis. Mais Baluze a justement fait remarquer que l'on ne devait pas attacher d'importance à ces qualificatifs, parcequ'à cette le titre de vicomte était attaché à la personne et non à la terre Le titre de vicomte de Ségur prouve que Foucher possédait le château de Ségur; il ne peut empêcher de voir en lui un Vicomte de Limoges. Adémar, dit de Ségur, est probablement le fils de Foucher et son successeur. (It is true that Foucher is appointed Viscount of Ségur, while Hildegair was called Viscount of Limoges. But Baluze rightly pointed out that one should not attach importance to these qualifiers, since the title of viscount is attached to the person and not to land. The title of Viscount Ségur proves that Foucher possessed Castle Ségur, it cannot preclude him as a Viscount of Limoges. Adémar, called Ségur, is probably the son of Foucher and his successor. It was the decisive reason to give Adémar the title of Viscount of Limoges.)

⁴ Victor de Ségur-Cabanac, *Histoire de la maison de Ségur dès son origine 876. Marquis, comtes et vicomtes de Ségur en Limousin, en Guienne, en Périgord, en l'Île de France, en Champagne, en Autriche et en Hongrie*, (Brünn [Brno, Czech Republic], 1908), pp. 7-12.

Records dating to the 12th century show that there were multiple families with the name Ségur. Some of these families were merged into others. Victor Ségur-Cabanac begins numbering the generations with Guillaume (William) of Ségur in 1242. The house of Ségur united with the house of Cabanac by marriage in 1546, a son of this union was Pierre de Ségur, Viscount of Cabanac, who lived from 1550 (or 1554) to 1593. Genealogical research on the internet yielded different results than Victor Ségur-Cabanac shows for the ninth and tenth generations. The genealogical tree following is more detailed than Victor Ségur-Cabanac, so I decided to use it, not judging which of the two is the more correct. I retained the French wording rather than risk introducing confusion from my translation. Please note that Jean Brun was lord of Grand-Puch and Cabanac both, but was called Puch.



This genealogical table was extracted from the Website of François Marchi.⁵ The marriage union was in the tenth generation, Joachim of Ségur + Catherine Brun of Puch (and Cabanac)

⁵ <http://genealogiequebec.info/testphp/info.php?no=173448>

The House of Ségur-Cabanac in Austria



Victor Ségur-Cabanac

Count Auguste-Françoise-Marcel de Ségur-Cabanac Founder of the House of Ségur-Cabanac in Austria

The French Revolution (1789-99) and the ensuing Great French Wars (French Revolutionary Wars and Napoleonic Wars) until 1815 caused great social upheaval in Europe, especially in France. In broad terms, French society was separated into three classes known as *estates of the realm*, which consisted of three *estates*. The *First Estate* was the clergy, the *Second Estate* was the nobility and the *Third Estate* was everyone else. In 1789 the social order disintegrated, or maybe a better word would be exploded, pitting the *third estate* against the church and the nobility. The ensuing Revolution and the "Reign of Terror" alarmed the European monarchies, and war broke out. This is the reason the Ségur-Cabanac family moved to Austria.

Dr. Anton Ségur-Cabanac succinctly explained, "Auguste Ségur-Cabanac joined the European Army to defeat the French Revolution and to liberate the King and the Queen,"⁶ who was the daughter of Empress Maria Theresa. The European Army was defeated and so my ancestor could not return to France and emigrated to Austria."⁷

A morsel of information from another source says that after Ségur-Cabanac left France, the French government in 1794 auctioned off his one-third interest in Chateau Latour, a working vineyard in the Bordeaux region.⁸

The *House of Ségur-Cabanac in Austria* dates itself to 1808 when the head of the family, Count Auguste-Françoise-Marcel de Ségur-Cabanac was accepted into the court of Francis I of Austria. In 1816, the count was appointed Prefect (chief of staff) for the Crown Prince Archduke Ferdinand. As emperor (1835-48), Ferdinand promoted Count Ségur-Cabanac to army colonel in 1836, then to major-general in 1844. To help settle his family into their new country, the count bought a manor and two fiefs in Moravia (today Moravia is part of the Czech Republic).

The next generation of Ségur-Cabanac brings us to Count Arthur, the subject recorded on the commemorative medal. Arthur (1805-1885) was head of the family and was lord of the town of *Sankt Peter in der Au*. Today, the town square in Sankt Peter in der Au is called *Graf-Ségur-Platz*, which translates to Count Ségur Square (Place or Plaza). The castle of Sankt Peter in der Au remained in the family until 1949.⁹

The "Great War" of 1914-18 marked the end of the old world order, leading to the dissolution of the Austro-Hungarian, Russian, German and Ottoman empires. After the war, the Austrian (Habsburg) monarchy was dissolved. However the emperor, Charles I, did not abdicate; instead he lived in exile while attempting to restore the monarchy. In 1919 Austria abolished all noble titles and privileges, but did not confiscate the holdings of the nobility.¹⁰ In 1920 the abolition of noble titles was included in the constitution. Evidently, orders of knighthood have not been banned, as the Order of the Golden Fleece still exists in Austria, and nearly every member's name includes a title of nobility.¹¹

⁶ Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette

⁷ Anton Ségur-Cabanac

⁸ <http://www.thewinedoctor.com/tastingsprofile/latour.shtml>

⁹ Anton Ségur-Cabanac

¹⁰ "When speaking of *Austrian nobility*, two categories can be made: 1) the historic nobility that lived in the territories of the Habsburg empire and who swore allegiance to the dynasty, which included everyone until 1918; 2) the present, post-1918 Austrian nobility, specifically those who today retain Austrian citizenship, whose family originally come from Austria proper, South Tyrol, Burgenland and southern Bohemia, or who were ennobled at any point under Austrian rule and identify themselves as belonging to that class." http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austrian_nobility.

¹¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Knights_of_the_Golden_Fleece



Victor Ségur-Cabanac

Médailles commémoratives

Obverse: "PULCHERIO • FIL • PRIM • V • COM • DE • SEGUR + ADELBERGO • PRIM • V • COM • LEMOVIC • 876" (FOUCHER SON FIRST VISCOUNT OF SEGUR + ALDEBERT FIRST VISCOUNT OF LIMOGES 876). Trefoil with lion on shield. Reverse: "★ POST • MILLE • AN • ARTHUR • COM • DE • SEGUR • CABANAC ★" (AFTER A THOUSAND YEARS ARTHUR COUNT SEGUR CABANAC). Along rim near bottom "JAUNER" which is the medalist mark. Shield of Ségur-le-chateau held by two wildmen on either side. Above shield is a lion standing on helmet. Austria, Franz Joseph I, Vienna, Bronze, 44mm, issued in 1876.

Catalog citations:

Wurzbach-Tannenberg, Wolfgang R. *Katalog Meiner Sammlung von Medaillen, Plaketten und Jetons*. Volume 2. Amalthea, Zurich, 1943, p. 1357, #8387.

Nentwich, Josef. *Numismatische Topographie von Niederösterreich*. Published by author, (Mechitharisten printer), Vienna, 1898 p. 98, "St. Peter in der Au," #1.

Katalog der Ausstellung von Münzen und Medaillen sowie der Papier-Verthzeichen aus der Regierungszeit Sr. Majestät Kaisers Franz Josef I. 1848 bis 1888. Numismatischen Gesellschaft, Vienna, 1888, p. 44, #488.

The medal is not listed in a new work on the medals from the time of Emperors Ferdinand and Franz Joseph I. (1835-1848-1916). Peter Hauser: *Katalog meiner Sammlung von Medaillen, Plaketten und Jetons aus der Regierungszeit der Kaiser Ferdinand I. und Franz Josef I.*, 2 volumes, Horn, 2006. (This is the private collection of Peter Hauser with more than 7000 medals, but no photos).

Unless otherwise noted, all translations and any associated errors are my own. My thanks go to Dr. Anton Ségur-Cabanac and to Dr. Hubert Emmerig for their assistance with my research.

NI

Saxony: The Death Commemoratives

Howard Ford, NI #LM90

The German States, unlike some other areas of Europe, produced large numbers of commemorative coins, many of which circulated right along with the regular issues. The Saxons took great pride in honoring their kings with special issues at the times of their deaths. In 1854, a very popular ruler, Frederick August II, died, and the Saxon mint at Dresden prepared four coins in his memory.

All of the coins show a handsome and still rather youthful portrait on the obverse, with the date of the ruler's death, 9 August 1854, below the portrait at 6:00. In the center of its reverse, the 1/3 Thaler quotes from the Bible, from Hosea X:12, concerning the passing of a good king, who "sowed justice and harvested love."



The Thaler shows two female allegorical figures facing each other and sharing their grief; the same biblical quotation runs from 7:00 to 5:00 around the inside rim. There are actually two commemorative Thalers for the dead king, but they differ only on their rims. The rim of one type, KM1180.1, mentions the weight of the coin as a fourteenth of a fine Mark, and gives the mintmark, "F," for Dresden. The other type, KM1180.2, is a Mining Thaler, one of many such issues in Saxon coinage. On the rim the inscription reads: "SEGEN DES BERGBAUS," which notes the blessing given to the Saxons by their mining industry. The legend is followed by crossed hammers, then the weight, expressed simply as "XIV E. F. M.," and the Dresden mintmark. A large 2 Thaler death commemorative was also issued with the same designs as the KM1180.1 Thaler, but there was no Double Mining Thaler corresponding to KM1180.2.



The practice of honoring the dead monarchs with coins had gone back many decades, but we will note just a pair that were close in time to those just discussed. The photo below shows the commemorative for Frederick August I, dead as of May 5, 1827. His reign is said to be "*VOLLENDET*," fully at an end.

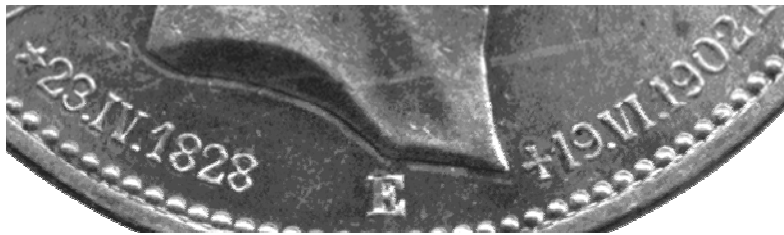


He was succeeded by his brother Anton, whose Death Thaler in 1836 looks exactly like his regular issue, shown below, except for two torches added behind the shield of Saxony.



The practice continued after the passing of Frederick August II in 1854; but no death commemorative was designed for his brother, John, the noted Dante scholar, who died in 1873. The failure to honor John with a special coin was undoubtedly caused by the fact that Saxon coinage was in transition in 1873. The last Thaler had been minted in 1871 and the last 2 Thaler, a commemorative for John's 50th Wedding Anniversary, in 1872; but no coins on the new standard of the Mark would be made until 1875, when a 5 Mark appeared for his son and successor, Albert. So John's death in 1873 occurred at a time when the Saxon Mint was simply unprepared to act.

For Albert, the practice of minting death commemoratives was resurrected. Both commemorative 2 Mark and 5 Mark issues appeared for the death of Albert in 1902. Albert was succeeded as king by his brother George, who had a very short reign of only some two years. When George died in 1904, a 2 Mark and a 5 Mark honored his memory.



As the photos show, these issues from the Muldenhutten Mint give the date of each king's birth on the left and the date of his death on the right. For Albert, the dates are near the bottom rim and flank the "E" mintmark. For George, the dates run from top to bottom just under the legend on both sides of the portrait.

NI

Plain and Simple or Complex and Confusing?
An Observation Regarding the Mintages and Catalog Pricing of
Edward VII's Coinage for British India
Fred L. Price, NI #1504



One Rupee 1908

The coins of Edward VII for British India are remarkable in several ways. First, they feature a dramatic departure from the highly decorative obverse and reverse designs on the coins of his mother and predecessor, Queen, and later, Empress Victoria. The bold uncrowned head of Edward is a large, strong and forceful image of the monarch. The reverse is appealing because of the open simplicity and clean lines of lotus spray, crown and lettering. The obverse was designed by G.W. deSaulles of the Royal Mint and modified by the Calcutta Mint engraver. The reverse was supplied by the Indian government. These characteristics carry through for all of Edward's silver issues of 2 Annas, 1/4 Rupee, 1/2 Rupee and 1 Rupee coins. Second, when looking at a graphic presentation of their production, one is struck by the great variance in mintages. Third and last, we have to wonder whether the valuations shown for these coins truly indicate their relative availability (or scarcity).

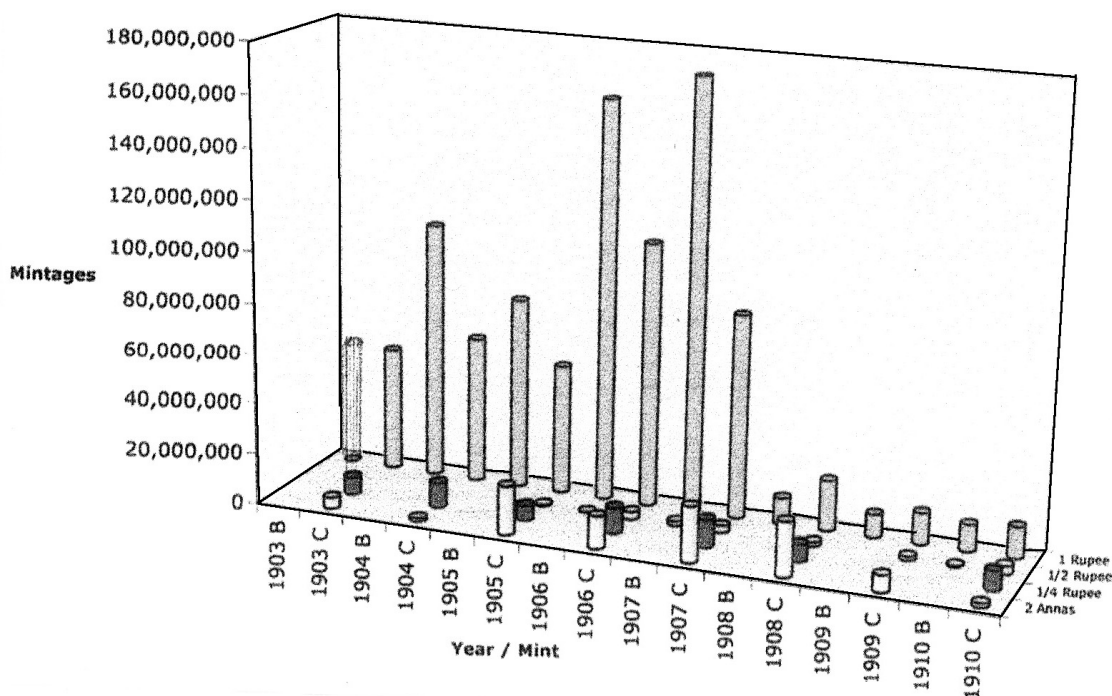
The 2 Annas (KM #505) catalog generally in the range of \$12 to \$15 for uncirculated specimens. Proof-like re-strikes and proofs are around \$100 and \$200 respectively. Excluding the exotic proof and re-strike issues and looking at the mintage chart and graph, it would seem greater pricing distinctions would be warranted given the variance in production numbers from 1.6 to over 22 million.

The 1/4 Rupees (KM #506) have similar patterns of pricing. Uncirculated coins are listed at \$20 each regardless of mintage. Even given certain vagaries of supply and demand for any given item, with mintages between 6.3 and 11.4 million, logic would suggest lower mintages would command higher values. In the eight years of issues, the 2 Annas and the 1/4 Rupees were produced only at Calcutta, the easternmost mint of India.

The larger 1/2 Rupee was issued in even lesser amounts. Calcutta minted a little more than 13.4 million, while its sister mint Bombay (Mumbai) produced 3 million. The 1906B 1/2 Rupee numbers around 400,000 coins, very small indeed given the exploding population of British India. Ordinary strikes in uncirculated condition are priced at \$50, whereas the proof-like re-strikes and proofs are from \$175 to \$750 respectively. Because it has the smallest mintage of any British Indian coin, the 1/2 Rupee of Edward VII is most difficult to find in any condition.

In stark contrast, the mints at Bombay and Calcutta issued almost a billion 1 Rupee coins (KM #508).¹ Prices for uncirculated Rupees are \$25-30, with the 1908B and 1909B issues reflecting smaller numbers and higher valuations between \$50-60. Still, the range of 9 million to over 170 million does not seem to be reflected in the pricing. Proof-like re-strikes and proofs are arbitrarily set between \$200 and \$700 respectively.

Edward VII – British Indian Silver



Year/Mint	2 Annas	1/4 Rupee	1/2 Rupee	1 Rupee	(Pridmore)
1903 B				52,969	52,969,151
1903 C	4,434,000	7,060,000		49,403,000	49,403,355
1904 B				101,949,000	101,949,291
1904 C	14,632,000	10,026		58,339,000	58,338,617
1905 B				76,202,000	76,202,223
1905 C	19,303,000	6,300,000	823,000	51,258,000	51,257,883
1906 B			400,000	158,953,000	158,953,269
1906 C	13,031,000	10,672,000	3,036,000	104,797,000	104,707,164
1907 B			1,856,000	170,912,000	170,911,816
1907 C	22,145,000	11,464,000	2,786,000	81,338,000	81,838,000
1908 B				10,715,000	10,714,770
1908 C	21,600,000	7,084,000	1,577,000	20,218,000	20,217,728
1909 B				9,539,000	9,538,746
1909 C	6,769,000		1,569,000	12,759,000	12,758,580
1910 B			809,000	10,885,000	10,884,946
1910 C	1,604,000	8,024,000	3,413,000	12,627,000	12,627,013

¹ The 2007 Krause-Mishler *World Coins 1901-2000* lists the mintage of the 1903B Rupee at 52,969. Pridmore records 52,969,151. The discrepancy is probably due to a few dropped digits in modern technology.

The question raised by this brief narrative is, "Do catalogs, even advertised price lists, reflect the relative scarcity of certain items given the apparent "blanket" pricing one reads in publications?" While I do not mean to criticize the hard work and diligence that goes into assembling lists and catalogs, the graphical display of denominations, dates and mintages does beg the question. Accurate valuations are desirable objectives, but require a lot of difficult and complex work. However, with more study the valuations may become less confusing.



India: British East India Company CNG



INDIA, British India. British East India Company. Bengal Presidency. 1651-1835. AR Rupee (11.60 g, 9h). Calcutta mint. Dated AH [1171]; RY 4 of Alamgir II (1757/8 AD). Persian legend with regnal year and mint / Persian legend with poetical couplet; AH date (off flan), mintmarks star and rosette. Cf. Pridmore 7 (regnal year 4 not listed, but see pp. 197-8); KM 8.2.

The British East India Company opened a mint in Calcutta on 13th June 1757, having expelled the Nawab of Bengal from the city earlier in the year. From that date until 28th July, extremely rare mohurs and rupees were struck with the mint name Alinagar Kalkatah (Calcutta, the Port of God). At that point the mint name was changed to simply Kalkatah. The rare regnal year 4 rupees, not known but posited by Pridmore, were struck through 28th April 1758. During this period, on the 27 June 1757, Company forces under Clive routed the Nawab at the battle of Plassey, confirming British control over eastern India.



Coin Quiz Bob Fritsch

Here are some questions about Russia and the Soviet Union, answers elsewhere in this edition.

1. How many republics were in the Soviet Union? BONUS: Name them.
2. Kopek and Ruble are denominations. What are their plurals?
3. CCCP. What does that really stand for?
4. In which direction is the Russian Imperial Eagle facing, left or right?



A Vagabond Journey around the World
With a Stop in Beirut
Harry A. Frank, edited by Roger deWardt Lane, NI #815

Darkness had fallen and the city was some miles distant. The inspector called a sinister-looking native, attired in a single garment that reached his knees, and ordered him to guide me to the town. We set off through the night, heavy with the smell of oranges, along a narrow road, six inches deep in the softest mud. At the outskirts of the city the native halted and addressed me in Arabic. I shook my head. Like most uneducated Orientals, he was of the opinion that, if a full-grown man could not understand language intelligible to the smallest child of his acquaintance, it was through some fault of his hearing. He put the question again and again, louder and more rapidly with every repetition. I let him bellow until breath failed him and he gave up and splashed on. He halted once more in a square, reeking with mud, in the center of the city, and burst forth in a greater vehemence of incoherency than before.

"Ingleesee?" he shrieked with his last gasp. "No," I answered, comprehending this one word, "Americano."

"Ha!" shouted the Arab, "Americano?" and he began his bellowing once more. Evidently he was attempting to explain something about my fellow countrymen, for the word "Americano" was often repeated. Exhausted once more, he struck off to the southward. I shouted "hotel" and "inn" in every language I could muster, but after a few mumbles he fell silent and only the splash of our feet in the muddy roadway attended our progress. We left the city behind, but still the Arab plodded steadily and silently southward. Many a quartermaster's story of white men led into Mussulman traps passed through my head. Far out among the orange groves of the suburbs he turned into a small garden and pointed to a lighted sign above the portal of the building among the trees. It announced the American consulate. Not knowing what else to do with a foreigner who did not understand the loudest Arabic, the native had led me to the only man in Beirut to whom he had heard the term "Americano" applied.

When I had paid my bill next morning in the French *pension* to which I had been directed, my worldly wealth was reduced to one English sovereign.¹ I turned in at the office of Cook and Son and tossing the piece to the native clerk, ask him to change it into coin of the realm, of small denomination. He turned the sovereign over several times, bit it, laid it carefully away, and set to pulling out boxes and drawers and dumping the coins they contained on the counter before me. There were pieces of copper, pieces of silver, pieces of bronze, tin, iron, nickel, zinc; coins half the size of a dime, coins that looked like tobacco tags, coins big enough with which to fell an ox, coins with holes in them, coins bent double, saucer-shaped coins, coins that had been scalloped around the edge by some erstwhile possessor of artistic temperament and hours of leisure; and still the clerk continued to pour out coins until I felt in duty bound, as a tolerably honest member of society, to call a halt.

"Say, old man," I put in, "that was only a sov. I gave you, you know."

"Yes, yes, I know," panted the native, dumping another handful that rattled down the sides of the heap like a bucketful of stones on the pile under a stone crusher. "I know,

¹ English sovereign or pound (pound is a value of account, not a coin) – gold coin

and I am very sorry I have not enough to change him. But I give you this and he just make him up." He tossed towards me a gold piece of ten francs.²

"What!" I cried, "you don't mean that I get that heap and ten francs besides, for one quid?"

"Away, efendee, yes, that makes one pound," he answered.

I pawed over the heap. Each rake brought to light pieces of new and unique pattern. "Fine collection," I said, "but what's the answer?"

The clerk drew a long breath as if for an extended lecture, and picked up one of the tobacco tags: "this," he said "is a *metleek*.³ It is worth eleven-twelfths of a *half-penny*.⁴ Five of these coppers make a *metleek*...only not quite...that is...here in Beirut...in Damascus...five of them make a *metleek* and a little more. Ten *metleeks* make a *bishleek*."⁵ He picked up one of the coins the owner of which would be arrested, in a civilized country, for carrying concealed weapons, "one *bishleek*...that is...except one and a half of these copper coins...that is here...in Damascus...ten *metleeks* make a *bishleek* and four coppers...except not quite...and in Sidon they make the same as in Damascus...only a little less...and these coins are worth the same as a *bishleek*...except not quite...that is...here...if they have a hole in them they are worth a copper and three-fourths...more that is...here, in Damascus they are worth a copper and one-fourth more, and this dish-shaped one is worth three *bishleeks* and three *metleeks* and two coppers and sometimes three-fourths of a copper more...except they with holes in them which are worth two *metleeks* and a copper and a half more...and this *mejeedieh*⁶ is worth in Damascus seven *bishleeks* ...and seven *metleeks* and two coppers and sometimes three and sometimes here not so much by two and a half coppers and in Jerusalem."

"And suppose it is a rainy day?"

"Oh, that does not make any difference," said the clerk, with owl-like solemnity, "but sometimes on busy days, as on feast days, the *bishleek* is worth three coppers and a half more...that is...here...in Damascus it is worth two more and sometimes not so much...as in Ramadam...and in Sidon it is worth three-fourths of a copper less...and in...here in Beirut."

"Hold on, efendee," I cried. "If you have a pencil and a ream of paper at hand." I understood his explanation perfectly, of course, but I had an unconquerable dread of forgetting it in my sleep.

"Certainly," cried the obliging clerk, and he dragged forth two sheets of paper and covered both with figures. Reduced to writing, the monetary system of Syria was simplicity itself. One could see through it as easily as through six inches of armor plate.

² French ten franc – gold coin

³ *metleek* - metallik Turkish low grade silver coin, late 19 century (11/12 of half penny)

⁴ English half-penny - 2 half-pennies = a pence, 240 pence = a pound

⁵ *bishleek* - (*besklik*) Turkish silver coin, .175 or .225 fine (= 10 *metleek*, 4 coppers)

⁶ *mejeedieh* - *mejidiieh* (nom. 19 piasters) = (7 *bishleek*, 7 *metleek*)

"Now, in carting this around, "I asked, tucking the sheets of paper away in a pocket, "you don't hire a porter."

"Ah, said the clerk, "you have not the large purse? Our Syrians carry a purse which is very long...which is long like the stocking which it is said are worn by the lady; but if you have not such a long purse and you have not any ladies..." I drew out a large handkerchief and fell to raking the heap of coins into it. "Ah, he cried, "that does very good, only you do not forget that in Damascus the *mejeedieh* is worth seven *bishleeks* and seven *metleeks* and two coppers and some-times...." But I had escaped into the silence outside.

Article extracted from Harry A. Frank, *A Vagabond Journey around the World*. (Garden City, N.Y: Garden City Pub. Co. [1910]). 111-14.



English sovereign



French 10 franc



English halfpenny



Bishleek



Mejeedieh

Images are not actual size and not to scale.

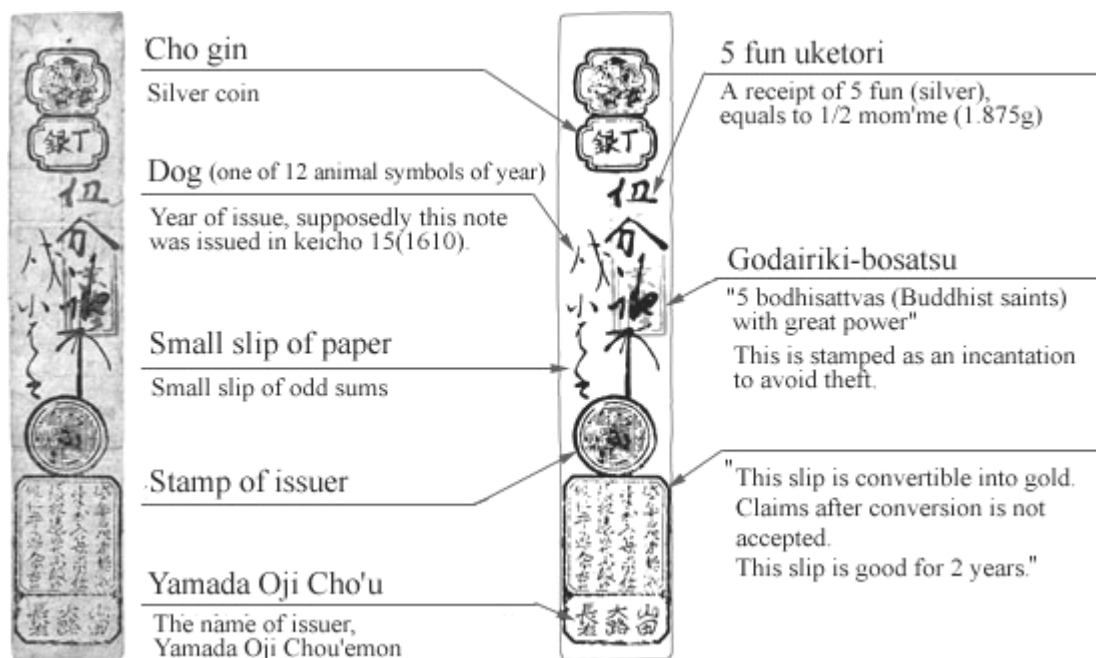
NI

Quiz answers: (1) 15; Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Belarussia (Belarus), Moldavia (Moldova), Ukraine, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan. (2) Kopeek or Kopeiki and Rublei. (3) It is actually Cyrillic for SSSR – Sovietskiy Soyuz Socialistika Republika (or something close to that). (4) Both directions – it is double-headed.

NI

Yamada Hagaki, Japan's First Paper Money

Mari Ohnuki, Institute for Monetary and Economic Studies, Bank of Japan



Yamada Hagaki privately issued note, circa 1600

Unlike gold, silver, and other precious metals, paper has little intrinsic value as a material, and if it is to be employed as a currency, users must regard it as having value equivalent to a precious metal and trust the issuer as the guarantor of its value.

Paper was invented in China in the second century A.D., and paper money is also thought to have originated there, in the form of *jiao-zi* (*jiao-zi* is a homonym for *jiaozi*, which is a noodle-shaped, like ancient *yuan bao* ingots—*Ed.*), which were used in place of iron coins in Sichuan Province at the end of the 10th century. In Europe, the first paper money dates to early 17th-century England, where "goldsmith notes" were issued by makers of gold articles to avoid the risks of transporting the precious metal.

In Japan, the first paper money in recorded use was Yamada Hagaki, notes issued in the Ise-Yamada region circa 1600, somewhat predating the use of paper money in England. These notes were issued by the Yamada *Oshi*, who were priests at the famous Ise Shinto Shrine. (An *oshi* was a sort of intermediary who officiated in the addressing of people's prayers to deities and also acted as a merchant.)

The note stated that it was exchangeable for silver coins. The denominations were very small and fixed: one momme, five fun (a fun was 1/10th of a momme), three fun, and two fun, suggesting that they were issued originally to relieve the inconvenience of weighing and slicing silver coins. The word "hagaki" is composed of the characters for "wing" and for "writing"; one theory holds that "wing writing" replaced the homophonous combination of characters used initially ("fraction writing," meaning a slip of paper denoting a small amount) to emphasize the

convenience with which paper money could be distributed, as if paper money had wings.

Influenced by Yamada Hagaki, powerful merchants in surrounding regions of Uji, Matsuzaka, Isawa, Yamato-shimoichi, and Settsuhirano-go began to issue their own paper money. Most of the money, however, was quickly replaced by the spread of the shogunate's coinage and by clan notes issued by the *daimyo* (local feudal lords).

Meanwhile, however, Yamada Hagaki continued to circulate, issued now by an autonomous administrative body peculiar to the Yamada region known as the *Sanpokai-gosho*. With the rise of the shogunate's power, this institution came gradually under the shogunate's sway; but, interestingly, throughout the Edo Period, while the shogunate banned the use of all but specie (gold, silver, and copper coins) elsewhere in areas under its control, it allowed the use of Yamada Hagaki in the Ise-Yamada region, under its protection as a "sacred territory."

Thus, although limited to the Ise-Yamada region, Yamada Hagaki continued to circulate and enjoy people's confidence. One reason for this popular trust was probably the clear identification of the issuing institution and the clear definition of its responsibility as issuer; in addition, the amounts that could be issued were limited by statute and backed by sufficient reserves. In the early 18th century, old notes were exchanged for new ones at intervals of seven years; this served not only to strictly limit the amounts in circulation but also to prevent forgery and thus enhance recognition.

Yamada Hagaki continued to be issued, even after the Meiji Restoration of imperial power in 1868, but the abolition of *hansatsu* (paper money issued by local clans) in 1871 ended this chapter in the history of paper money.

All images courtesy of Currency Museum, Institute for Monetary and Economic Studies, Bank of Japan.



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Albert L. Gammon, PO Box 1343, Sun City, AZ 85372: Ten page World Coin List, Contains Bank Notes, tokens, publications, ancients, crowns, minors and sets. Send SASE (self addressed stamped envelope) for list.

